

5 We claim:

1. A method for treating Acne Vulgaris and/or for producing anti-aging effects on the surface of the skin comprising topically applying to the skin of a mammal an effective amount of a topically active composition comprising a first topically active agent.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first topically active agent is a protease.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the first topically active agent is a serine protease.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the first topically active agent is selected from trypsin, tryptase, carboxypeptidase-Y, protease IV, subtilysin or mixtures thereof.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the first topically active agent is trypsin.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the first topically active agent is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of the topically active composition, of from about 0% (w/v) to 5% (w/v).

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the first topically active agent is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of the topically active composition, of from about 0.01% (w/v) to about 1% (w/v).

8. The method of claim 1 wherein said topically active composition further comprises a pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is a liposome or mixture thereof.

5        10. The method of claim 9 wherein said liposome is non-ionic.

11.        The method of claim 10 wherein said liposome is comprised of:

10            a) glycerol dilaurate, glycerol distearate, or a mixture thereof;

          b) cholesterol, or a compound having a steroid backbone as found in cholesterol or            a mixture thereof; and

15            c) a fatty acid ether having from about 12 to about 18 carbon atoms or a mixture thereof.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said liposome is comprised of:

          a) glycerol dilaurate;

          b) cholesterol; and

20            c) polyoxyethylene-10-stearyl ether.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the components of said liposome are present in a ratio of about 53:10:22 to about 63:20:32, respectively.

25        14. The method of claim 8 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of said topically active composition, of from about 0 mg/mL to about 100 mg/mL.

30        15. The method of claim 1 wherein the composition further comprises other ingredients such as moisturizers, cosmetic adjuvants, anti-oxidants, surfactants, foaming agents, conditioners, humectants, fragrances, viscosifiers, buffering agents, sunscreens, colorants, preservatives, and the like.

- 5        16. A method for treating Acne Vulgaris and/or for  
producing anti-aging effects on the surface of the skin  
comprising topically applying to the skin of a mammal an  
effective amount of:
- 10            a) a first topically active agent; and  
             b) an effective amount of a second topically active  
agent.
17. The method of claim 16 wherein the first topically  
active agent is a protease.
- 15        18. The method of claim 17 wherein the first topically  
active agent is a serine protease.
19. The method of claim 18 wherein the first topically  
active agent is selected from trypsin, tryptase,  
carboxypeptidase-Y, protease IV, subtilysin or mixtures  
thereof.
- 20        20. The method of claim 19 wherein the first topically  
active agent is trypsin.
21. The method of claim 20 wherein the first topically  
active agent is present in an amount of from about 0%  
(w/v) to 5% (w/v).
- 25        22. The method of claim 21 wherein the first topically  
active agent is present in an amount of from about 0.01%  
(w/v) to about 1% (w/v).
23. The method of claim 16 wherein said second  
topically active agent is a retinoid.
- 30        24. The method of claim 23 wherein said second  
topically active agent is selected from retinoic acids,  
vitamin A alcohol, vitamin A aldehyde, retinyl acetate,  
retinyl palmitate, or other derivatives, analogs or  
mixtures thereof.

- 5        25. The method of claim 24 wherein said second  
topically active agent is all-trans retinoic acid.
26. The method of claim 24 wherein the second topically  
active agent is present in an amount of from about  
0.0001% (w/v) to about 0.5% (w/v).
- 10       27. The method of claim 26 wherein the second topically  
active agent is present in an amount of from about  
0.001% (w/v) to about 0.025% (w/v).
28. The method of claim 16 further comprising a  
pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle.
- 15       29. The method of claim 28 wherein said  
pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is a  
liposome or mixture thereof.
30. The method of claim 29 wherein said liposome is  
non-ionic.
- 20       31. The method of claim 30 wherein said liposome  
is comprised of:
- a) glycerol dilaurate, glycerol distearate, or a  
mixture thereof;
- b) cholesterol, or a compound having a steroid  
25 backbone as found in cholesterol or a mixture thereof;  
and
- c) a fatty acid ether having from about 12 to about  
18 carbon atoms or a mixture thereof.
32. The method of claim 31 wherein said liposome is  
30 comprised of:
- a) glycerol dilaurate;
- b) cholesterol; and
- c) polyoxyethylene-10-stearyl ether.

5        33. The method of claim 31 wherein the components of said liposome are present in a ratio of about 53:10:22 to about 63:20:32, respectively.

10       34.        The method of claim 28 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of said topically active composition, of from about 0 mg/mL to about 100 mg/mL.

15       35. The method of claim 16 further comprising other ingredients such as moisturizers, cosmetic adjuvants, anti-oxidants, surfactants, foaming agents, conditioners, humectants, fragrances, viscosifiers, buffering agents, sunscreens, colorants, preservatives, and the like.

20       36. The method of claim 16 wherein the first topically active agent is applied to the skin of a mammal simultaneously with the second topically active agent.

25       37. The method of claim 16 wherein the first topically active agent is applied to the skin of a mammal at a time other than simultaneously with the second topically active agent.

38. A pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition comprising:

- a) a first topically active agent; and
- b) a second topically active agent.

30       39. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 38 wherein the first topically active agent is a protease.

5        40. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
39 wherein the first topically active agent is a serine  
protease.

10       41. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of  
claim 40 wherein the first topically active agent is  
selected from trypsin, carboxypeptidase-Y, protease IV,  
subtilysin or mixtures thereof.

42. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
41 wherein the first topically active agent is trypsin.

15       43. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
42 wherein the first topically active agent is present  
in an amount, based upon the total volume of the  
topically active composition, of from about 0% (w/v) to  
5% (w/v).

20       44. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
43 wherein the first topically active agent is present  
in an amount, based upon the total volume of the  
topically active composition, of from about 0.01% (w/v)  
to about 1% (w/v).

25       45. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
38 wherein said second topically active agent is a  
retinoid.

30       46. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
45 wherein said second topically active agent is  
selected from retinoic acids, vitamin A alcohol, vitamin  
A aldehyde, retinyl acetate, retinyl palmitate, or other  
derivatives, analogs or mixtures thereof.

47. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
46 wherein said second topically active agent is all-  
trans retinoic acid.

- 5        48. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
46 wherein the second topically active agent is present  
in an amount, based upon the total volume of the  
topically active composition, of from about 0.0001%  
(w/v) to about 0.5% (w/v).
- 10       49. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
48 wherein the second topically active agent is present  
in an amount, based upon the total volume of the  
topically active composition, of from about 0.001% (w/v)  
to about 0.025% (w/v).
- 15       50. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
48 wherein said topically active composition further  
comprises a pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable  
vehicle.
- 20       51. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
50 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically  
acceptable vehicle is a liposome or mixture thereof.
- 25       52. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
51 wherein said liposome is non-ionic.
- 30       53.        The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of  
claim 52 wherein said liposome is comprised of:  
          a) glycerol dilaurate, glycerol distearate, or a  
mixture thereof;  
          b) cholesterol, or a compound having a steroid  
backbone as found in cholesterol or a mixture thereof;  
          and  
          c) a fatty acid ether having from about 12 to about  
18 carbon atoms or a mixture thereof.
54. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim  
53 wherein said liposome is comprised of:

- a) glycerol dilaurate;
- b) cholesterol; and
- c) polyoxyethylene-10-stearyl ether.

55. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 53 wherein the components of said liposome are present in a ratio of about 53:10:22 to about 63:20:32, respectively.

56. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 50 wherein said pharmaceutically or cosmetically acceptable vehicle is present in an amount, based upon the total volume of said topically active composition, of from about 0 mg/mL to about 100 mg/mL.

57. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition of claim 38 wherein the composition further comprises other ingredients such as moisturizers, cosmetic adjuvants, anti-oxidants, surfactants, foaming agents, conditioners, humectants, fragrances, viscosifiers, buffering agents, sunscreens, colorants, preservatives, and the like.